

To: Mayor Chuck Reed
From: Education Subcommittee, Mayor Reed Transition Committee
Date: January 8, 2007
Subject: Final Recommendations

Committee Members:

Jennifer Andaluz, Chair
Brandi Chastain
Muhammed Chaudry
Frank Chavez
Liz Chew
Oscar Dace
Francine Davis
Tony Estremera
George Gange
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Areas of Focus:

Education is part of the Mayor's Economic Development Plan for San Jose

The goal is to link education with the economic vitality of San Jose. Strong connections between business and education sectors will create broader awareness of education issues and will help the city to identify areas for growth, support, and collaboration.

Recommendation: Partner with organizations to build corporate and community support for San Jose schools and teachers through direct funding, volunteerism, and advocacy.

San Jose develops and supports programs that help achieve grade level performance and college readiness among the city's diverse youth.

The goal is to increase the college-going rate of all of San Jose's students. The city's resources should be used to encourage and support innovative ideas and solutions.

Recommendation: Support and expand after school programs to achieve grade level performance and improve high school graduation rate and college preparedness of students.

The safety and security of our students and schools is critical to the city's health.

The goal is to maintain a high degree of safety and security among San Jose schools. Truancy abatement should be a primary focus. The program should have a clear goal and should be met with a commitment for police support.

Recommendation: Expand and support the Mayor's Gang Task Force through funding, staffing, and leadership. The Mayor's presence at Gang Task Force meetings will be vital to the success of the efforts.

Additional thoughts and areas of concentration for the Mayor in respect to education.

The Mayor should promote a service campaign to increase involvement in the lives of San José's youth.

Preschool education needs to be a primary focus of San José.

Teacher recruitment and retention must be a high priority for San José's schools.

San José needs to further examine how to increase the transfer rate from community colleges to 4-year colleges.

The Mayor's Education Collaborator should have a continuing roundtable that meets quarterly to discuss education issues. This roundtable should include leaders from the business community, educators, and should also include judicial representation.